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I strongly urge the department to continue to allow residents to change their name and gender markers on their passports. If a person is unable to update their passport to reflect their present identity, they risk facing abuse at the hands of foreign security. In addition, it increases work for domestic work forces, as inconsistent documentation and presentation makes their jobs harder. The easiest way to resolve this is to allow an individual to have control over personal identifying factors, and to have the right to change these things.

In addition, the argument that there are only two sexes—male and female—has already been denounced by experts and legal professionals alike, and these forms are in violation of the injunction put on State by the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado in the Zzyym v. Blinken case. Thus, these policies would harm not only transgender and other marginalized individuals, but intersex individuals who had no choice over how they were born.

Lack of control over name changes will also inevitably lead to other forms of gender-based discrimination and other complications that worsen the efficiency of domestic agencies. An example of this could be a woman changing her last name upon marriage, but being unable to consistently apply this change to her passport, thus making identification and verification of documentation more difficult down the line.

In short, these proceedings, likely from the "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government" executive order, will only prove to harm citizens across identities, as well as create roadblocks for federal workers, many of whom already face intense workloads. I strongly urge you to allow individuals to continue to make these personal changes without legal restriction.